

BERKELEY ABLAZE

Town Clerk Woodsum Resigns.

To Take Effect Decem- ber 21st.

Acton Wants "Gazette" Representatives

Left out in the Cold when the Board Meets.

The Board to Meet Again this Evening— Other Interesting Local News for the Readers of the Gazette.

Board of Trustees.

The meeting was called to order at 8:15 o'clock and all of the members answered to their names as the roll was called.

The Street Committee made a report upon the petition of Professor Kellogg in favor of granting it if the sidewalk be made of concrete instead of wood. Trustee Whiting thought that if a six foot sidewalk of wood be put down the petition should be allowed. The President put the motion that Kellogg be allowed to put down a cement sidewalk under the usual restrictions. Carried.

License Committee reported in favor of granting a license to A. Blumberg to keep a saloon on the corner of University and San Pablo avenues. On a vote it was granted.

Clerk Woodsum called the attention of the Board to the fact that the time for hearing the protest against opening Delaware street had arrived. A. A. Moore of Oakland appeared in behalf of the contestants. The Town Attorney had made a report against the regularity of the proceedings

The members stated that the Board having passed its resolution and having jurisdiction it would be better for it to rescind all its proceedings. Mr. Moore said he was here for a particular purpose and should combat that proposition. He desired to have an end put to the proposition for all time. Trustee Whiting said he did not see how the Board could act at all.

At this point the proceedings on the protest were given the slip and a petition asking for a sidewalk on the south side of Webster street, signed by Robert Smilie, asking permission to do the work by private contract, was read. The petition was granted with the usual restrictions.

The Delaware street protest here popped up again. It was stated that the Board had no rights outside of the tide land survey. There was a question of right outside of tide-water. There was an error of description in the proceedings. Taking the description of the State as rated, the town would have a right to open the street out about 2000 feet. It cannot acquire jurisdiction of United States property. If the sale of tide lands was rated, then the town would have a right to open through the tide lands. Trustee Whiting moved that the protest be sustained, and all action rescinded.

The town attorney said there was no question of the irregularity of the proceedings. Trustee Whiting said: "Doing this business over several times makes an expense in printing that is profitable to somebody."

The attorney then said: "If what the State has done is correct, it is all right to go ahead. The next time the description will be correct."

Town Engineer Huggins: "The map shows the line to be correct, and I will take it as correct until proved to the contrary."

Trustee Whiting replied that any mistake would do as well. He was in favor of trying one street, and if it was found they were correct on that, then do the others.

On motion all proceedings in relation to opening all the streets to the water front were rescinded.

A protest was read against the awarding of a contract for the public printing to the *Advocate*. It was signed by a large number of Berkeley's tax payers. The Executive Committee on behalf of the People's party also made a protest of a similar nature to the above in relation to the public printing and also against rescinding an ordinance concerning flagmen at Delaware street and on University avenue. The only notice taken of the above protests were to receive them and place them on file.

Mr. J. M. Doyle tried to get at some explanation of the matters from the Board but was not as successful as he might have been. He was referred to the records of the Board for information.

Trustee Whiting said he understood that the communication gave the same information as the records of the Board did. In the matter of

printing, the interest of the people is shown. The President stated that Nash withdrew his proposition of 7 1-2 cents per square. W. A. Nash replied "that if the printing was going for bids I was willing to withdraw. Mrs. Marquand put in a bid at 40 cents and I put one in at 25 cents. I am willing to carry out the contract at 7 1-2 cents."

Trustee Acton asked permission of the President to question Mr. Nash. The permission having been obtained he asked W. A. Nash if he was the editor of the *GAZETTE*, holding up a copy of that newsy and breezy newspaper.

Mr. Nash replied that he was. Acton then asked the meaning of the \$ \$ which were in the heading of an article in the paper. Mr. Nash, after taking the paper to see what information was wanted, replied that the word was Trust and three S's. Some printer said it was a wrong font. Then in a very excited manner Trustee Acton said: "I think any man who writes this thing should be put outside of the rail." Trustee Whiting asked "who was smirched at the \$ marks? A man should only get mad in the right place."

Here J. M. Doyle said the signers of that petition (referring to that one presented a few minutes before) ask for information. President Preble said "you are respectfully referred to the minutes of the Board."

Mr. Doyle, "The papers state that the overland trains would stop at West Berkeley. Would be glad to know if it was to be done."

Some one said, "Wilder stated if an electric car road went from East to West Berkeley the Company would consider the proposition of stopping the trains at West Berkeley. Now the trade did not warrant it. Trustee Whiting stated that he thought when the \$12 franchise was through the trains may stop there."

Trustee Acton now said, "I want the motion put that the representatives of the *GAZETTE* be put outside of the railing, although there was no second to the motion that the reporter heard, the President put the motion and Acton alone voted aye and the President declared the motion carried."

This being settled, as far as the motion was concerned, the representatives of all the papers kept their pencils pushing pretty pliable putting pruning participles plentifully, princely pleased, and to the *GAZETTE* representative there was no sound except the beating of his own heart. No attempt further was made to deprive the patrons of this paper from getting reports of the meeting, the same as accorded to all other papers.

A letter was read stating that J. Brady was the owner of a certain lot, and there was no assessment opposite his name. Referred to town attorney.

A resolution was read rescinding Resolutions 646, 647, 648, 649, 650, 651 and 652. These are the water front street resolutions. It was carried.

A resolution was read requiring the Town Engineer to make a diagram showing the grading, curbing and macadamizing of College way for assessment purposes. Adopted as read, Trustee Whiting voting no.

A resolution was adopted allowing the Marshal to extend the accepting time of contract on Alcatraz avenue sixty days.

Resolutions of intention for a 4-foot sidewalk on south side of Stewart street and cross walks except where laid; on north side of Adeline to Mason be sidewalked; on east line of Grove street 4-foot sidewalk; E. S. Wheeler, 4-foot sidewalk with cross-walks; west side of Acton street to school house creek 4-foot sidewalk; sidewalk on south side of Hilgard avenue, were read and adopted.

An ordinance, first reading, in relation to curb and grades on Prospect street, was passed.

The Finance Committee reported the following, for which warrants were ordered to be drawn:

GENERAL FUND.

W. A. Nash	\$10 00
J. W. Striker	150 00
Geo. C. Woodsum	100 00
W. J. Goery	91 00
Geo. Stricker, assignee	
H. J. Hughes	60 00
T. M. Jacquemin	2 50

ROAD FUND.

Thos. Cuagmite	42 00
O. N. Ekley	12 50
G. Fece	37 00
F. A. Wass	10 50
J. Mulligan	4 00
Sam Johnson	8 50
G. Banson	12 00
A. J. Lopez	12 00
A. C. Jacobsen	14 00
M. Roach	3 00
James Heffey	14 00
J. Alphonzo	27 55
Chas. F. Foster	2 00
M. Heffey	9 00
James Statt	15 00
H. A. Frazer	15 00
Lewis Cook	14 00
N. W. Miller	24 00
El Dorado Linseed Oil Works	5 25

Trustee Whiting said the people on Durant and Shattuck avenues wished to have a hydrant placed there. Granted.

The Street Committee called the Board's attention to a wooden sewer on University avenue, between Third and Fourth streets, situated under the sidewalk, which was in a bad condition. The Marshal said it should never have been placed there. He was instructed to have the property owners repair it.

Clerk George C. Woodsum then said:

"President and members of the Board of Trustees—It becomes my painful duty to resign the position of Town Clerk. I wish to thank the Board and the citizens of Berkeley for their kindness toward me. I would like to have my resignation take place on the 21st of this month, and I would respectfully ask to have my books expeted before my bondsmen are released. I have endeavored to keep them properly, but everyone is liable to make mistakes. I leave you because I have a better position offered to me. Again, gentlemen, I

thank you."

The Town Attorney was instructed to draw a resolution of regret at Mr. Woodsum's severing his connection with the town, and also convey the respects of the Board for what he had done.

Mr. Woodsum said he did not think it was necessary as he had got paid for all he had done. "I would like to ask the Board when they adjourn to do so until tomorrow evening, on account of a mistake made in relation to opening the bids for contracts. At least three of the members of the Board will be necessary to be present."

On motion the resignation of Clerk Woodsum was accepted, to take place on the 21st of December.

The report of Town Treasurer Squires, which will be given in full in tomorrow's issue, was referred to the Finance Committee.

Trustee Whiting moved that the Finance Committee expert the town clerk's books. The matter was finally referred to the Finance Committee to report at the next meeting of the Board.

The resolution in relation to Clerk Woodsum as prepared by Town Attorney Graber was read and adopted.

Trustee Stubenrauch brought up a question about the poundmaster, which was informally discussed and finally the matter was allowed to rest as it is at present.

Trustee Whiting then said he had a report to make. "I wish to state that the report the town attorney made the other night was not correct, was uncalled for and peculiar, to say the least." He then read a letter from Judge J. G. Severance of the same import. A running colloquy was had between Trustee Whiting and Mr. Graber. Considerable cheering in the lobby annoyed President Preble very much, and he said that the whole business was for having an effect upon the gallery. As Trustee Hadlen commenced to say something the meeting was suddenly adjourned.

Correction.

In a report of the Smoker's Glee party in the new engine house, the name of the chief in the fire department was given as Mr. Pascoe. This gentleman was elected as chief of the whole department. It was the chief of the company in Lorin who was referred to, Mr. Stapleton.

Trustees Meet To-night.

The Board of Trustees will meet to-night as an adjourned meeting. Nominally the idea is to let a few contracts that have been advertised for. It would not be surprising if they let a few contracts where the work was not advertised for. The present Board of Trustees need the closest kind of watching by all people who are interested in any interest which appertains to Berkeley.

THE GAZETTE.

PUBLISHED EVERY DAY EXCEPT SUNDAY

BY THE

GAZETTE PUBLISHING COMPANY.

WILL A. NASH.....EDITOR.

JOHN O. HANSCOM BUSINESS MANG'R

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One Year.....\$3.00

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MUZZLING THE PRESS

FREE SPEECH DENIED

Property Owners Not Allowed to Speak Freely to the Board of Trustees.

"No rogue ever felt the halter draw.
That had a good opinion of the law."

Last evening at the meeting of the Board of Trustees of the town of Berkeley the first lieutenant of the trio ring combination as a present composed, endeavored to do the dirtiest work it has ever attempted and that would make the squid fish envious. While a good many residents of this town take but little, if any, interests in the managements of its affairs, there are a great number who have to support in a financial way the acts of of those to whom has been given the authority of disposing the money placed under their care as a sacred trust. Fortunately or unfortunately the burden comes upon the medium or poorer class. It would naturally be supposed that these natural sustaining elements of the government would or should have a voice.

Whether Berkeley has a different kind of government from that of almost all of the Eastern cities where the principal officers have become convicts from malfeasance in office, time will determine.

That Berkeley has venal officers goes without saying, as was evidenced in routine matters of the late Board where a Trustee was pulled down on street contract business. It was either eat crow or answer to malfeasance in office. The fellow eat crow. Eating one dish sometimes necessitates like following like, or a counter imitant of the strongest kind.

One thing follows another and in these reflections we are led to look upon the actions of public officers, and if aught we see in them to condemn, just give everybody the benefit of your good experience, that some benefit may be derived from it.

In criticising, where there was anything warranted, as far as the public officers of Berkeley were concerned to the general public, this paper has been more than kind in overlooking errors. At times it would seem that they wear from unacquaintance with public life and the use of public institutions. Time helps a good pedagogue and it soon becomes first opaque and then quite transparent that Berkeley's government had a coil around its neck more effective in

its strangling than any snake ever known in history.

Such has been its effects that instead of what the whole history of our government and religion has taught us that to a certain extent we are free, we find the chains about us stronger than fetters about the slave.

To illustrate in the Board of Trustees any one observant of its usages cannot help but notice that the President decides all questions upon the technical passage at arms in this way. One member, and it is always the same person, makes a motion. The President, if the question is favorable to his ideas, immediately says, "Such is the motion—all in favor say aye—the motion is carried." There are probably more than a dozen of these acts which become nominally laws that are perpetrated by the President of the Board of Trustees at every meeting of that body. If this smells to Heaven take it. That the controlling influences of the Board of Trustees today is corrupt as can be, it takes but a very little attention to find out. When the controlling influence of any body of men, at the present time of life, attempts by any influence whatever to smother, kill or surreptitiously destroy the efficiency of the press which distributes knowledge to the world, they will meet the disaster which occurred after Bellshazzar's Feast. Put this in a place where you will remember, and do not forget, Board of Trustees, that the GAZETTE is a live paper, and does not hesitate to call names in such a way that the every man can understand. We have more to say farther on about matters that appertain to the welfare of Berkeley, which is our home and welfare.

A NEW BARBER SHOP

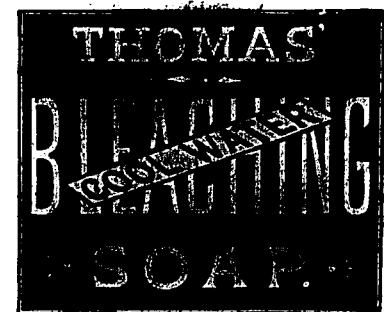
On the corner of University Avenue and 9th street. Children's hair neatly cut for 15 cents. Pupils patronage respectfully solicited.

EDWARD McCORMICK, Prop.
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NOTICE.

Parties so desiring can always call up the GAZETTE by telephone. Telephone No. 33, six bells, West Berkeley. The office in East Berkeley will for the time being be located in the same office with the Western Union Telegraph Company.

S. G. Crawford has moved his Intelligence office to corner of Addison street and Stanford avenue, where all kinds of help can be obtained.



Pectoral Cough Syrup.

Cut this coupon out and take it to
H. D. KELSEY,

The Pharmacist, corner Shattuck avenue and Addison street, Berkeley, Cal., with 15 cents and get a 25c bottle of the P. C. S.

MRS. TABER'S FASHIONABLE Hair Dressing Parlors.

2130 SHATTUCK AVENUE.

Corner Center Street.

Latest style hair dressing .50c
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Curling and cutting bangs .25c
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Bread, Cake, Pies & Confectionery

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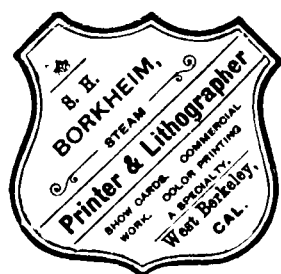
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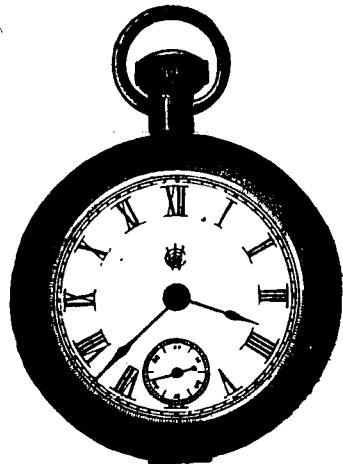
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Candles.....15c per box
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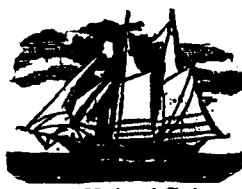
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The public supplied.

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Suits Made to order in time for Xmas
if ordered right off at prices that
will astonish everybody.

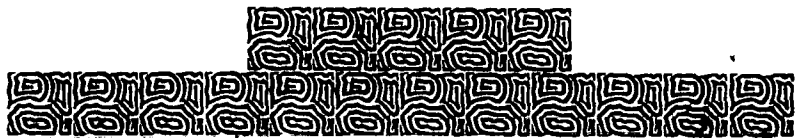
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suit of clothes and a fine Chincilla
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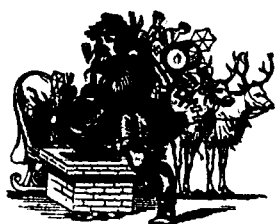
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Get your watches, clocks and jewelry repaired at R. A. Curry's, formerly Scott's, 2124 Center street, Berkeley. Diamonds, watches and jewelry of all kinds on hand. Work guaranteed.

XMAS HOLIDAYS.

Husbands and wives, call upon Schmidt & Zehner for all kinds of cutlery and holiday gifts.

Wonder if Acton is half the man who owns the earth or the man that owns half the earth?

There are lots of people just now who are getting up all sorts and kind of signs that it is going to be a wet winter.

That was a terrible snub that Trustee Whiting gave to Mr. Graber, the town attorney, last night. It is a wonder that he stood it so coolly.

The Sunset Telephone Company has issued a new directory for the State of California, which is very complete and a perfect guide for its subscribers.

Another heavy rain commenced to fall about 2 o'clock and continued in the same degree until after 8 o'clock. Since then it has become much lighter but comes along very steadily.

Mrs. Augusta Kohler disposed of her entire property by deeds of gift before her death so that there would never be any chance for a dispute about it. The value of the property so disposed is estimated at \$250,000.

Heafey's call down on Acton surprises the outsiders but not the insiders. Put up or shut up. I move to reconsider. What a fall. All the contractors know it.

The attention of the Marshal is called to the Narrow Gauge crossing at University avenue, also at Addison street. The railroad company should be made to place planks between the rails, as it is now teams crossing are liable to break a spring or an axle.

Preble's attempts at the punning business and his one sided decisions whenever Acton makes a motion, have got to be monotonous with the public. He laughs and thinks it is very funny.

The Board of Education will meet tonight. It is supposed that only the matter of opening bids for contracts will be performed by the Board of Trustees at their meeting this evening, and consequently the meeting of the former Board will not interfere with the latter.

The GAZETTE feels somewhat proud of the several letters, as well as personal congratulations, upon the action taken principally by one of the Board of Trustees last evening, in the endeavor to suppress criticism on the action taken. Good common English is good enough for this paper, and it speaks it so that all can understand.

Around Mt. Diablo.

On Saturday morning last two young men of Berkeley, William and Fred Atchison, left the West end with a team to go to the top of Mt. Diablo. Leaving at about 9 o'clock a. m. they passed through Temescal, and arrived at the Fish ranch about noon, where the young men sat down to one of the finest dinners they ever partook of in their lives. The mountain trout and cottontail rabbit, washed down with proper liquors, was rather more luxurious than every day life.

Passing through the town of Lafayette they arrived at their uncle's ranch, near the foot of Mount Diablo, late in the afternoon.

After a good night's rest the young men, with others accompanying, commenced the ascent of the mountain on the north side at 4 o'clock in the morning. At the cross roads when about half way up the steep ascent, looking upward dark spots can be seen which afterwards proved to be mouths of caves. They determined to make an exploration and see what was in those holes. This was easy to think of but not so easy to perform. Persevering they reached the first opening, not without torn clothes, scratched hands and bruised legs, however. Resting awhile, Fred made the start to go inside and find out something about what was there. He had no light, except that made by matches, and was soon inside about twenty feet when he found an apparently deep basin of water. To get on the other side, farther into the mountain, he clung to the rocky edges of the rim of the basin and finally got on the far side. He was afraid of encountering some wild animals, which are often on the outside of the mountain, and kept his gun handy for an emergency. Gradually creeping along the ground he got in what proved to him then the far end of the cave. In there was charred remains of wood, evidently been used by some previous visitor.

A small fire was kindled, which lit up the place. In his estimation the open space above reached upwards of seventy feet and the light from the fire caused him to see many bright shiny objects in the vast dome above.

Bats now began to fly about him, which did not suit his fancy much. Looking closer about him, he picked up specimens of rock strongly impregnated with copper, a stone pestle for a mortar, with one side of the handle chipped off. Pretty soon the air became oppressive with smoke, and he had to creep back on his hands and knees with his mouth close to the ground for fresh air.

He worked in the mines considerable, and he thinks that probably a great many years ago that this cave or tunnel was opened by Indians. He will visit the place again, better prepared, however, for a more thorough exploration.

The party then proceeded to the top of the mountain, and took that view of the surrounding country which cannot be excelled in any part of the United States. They left the top of the mountain at 2 o'clock and arrived back to West Berkeley at 8 o'clock in the evening.

In the United States District Court, yesterday the appointment of Samuel Knight as United States District Attorney in place of Charles A. Garter, whose term had expired, pending the

appointment by the President of a District Attorney for four years, was spread upon the minutes of the court.

Things at Home.

The cohesive power of plunder makes thieves wondrous kind. How much longer are the property owners in Berkeley going to allow themselves to be cajoled into the idea that the money which has cost them 40 cents only passes current for 7 1/2 cents when they come to pay their assessments on street property? This is the proper way of illustrating it: Your Board of Trustees have assessed you 40 cents, when the market price is only 7 1/2 cents. The saying that "we must all live" does not apply in this case. A place of trust used to be considered the best test of honesty. How the mighty have fallen! Berkeley is also blighted.

Not Identified.

The Judson train-robber suspects are still in the County Jail, but the impression is gaining ground that they are not the right men.

Mrs. Lewis of 813 Ninth street, San Francisco, who was on the train when the robbery was committed, and who got a good view of the robbers, was over yesterday to take a look at the prisoners. She could not identify either of them.

Chris Nor, the West Oakland liveryman, whose team the robbers used, has also called at the jail, and he, too, is of the opinion that neither of them ever hired a rig from him.

Court Notes.

The Laymance-Sanford contest has been set for January 3rd at 10 a. m. before Judge Frick.

Judge Ellsworth has granted the writ of review asked for by A. B. Dixon against the Berkeley Town Trustees. Dixon objects to the granting of a liquor license to J. A. Munson of Lorin. The matter will be heard January 18th.

Louis Matheny will be tried March 5th for burglarizing Kuhne's saloon the night Officer Cashin was killed.

Keep Your Eyes Open.

More space than usual fills the columns of the GAZETTE in regard to the good and evil doings of Berkeley's town guardians. The trouble is that everything has got on the way to such an extent that very soon only loose strings will be extent, that we have thought it the proper time to commence applying the brakes. A deficiency in view in the town treasury, and the recklessness with which one or two of the Town Trustees show in spending what little money that may be raised portends almost to vagrancy in the near future. The GAZETTE is like the fire bell on an engine house; it gives the first alarm of danger, and is always the first to the rescue.

If the public are to form any idea of the modern form of Altruism as developed by some of its leading advocates in Berkeley, it means contraption, which is addition and silence. \$ \$

On Thursday evening next there will be a meeting of the High School graduates in the gymnasium of the new High School. The object of the meeting will be to establish a scholarship in the State University.

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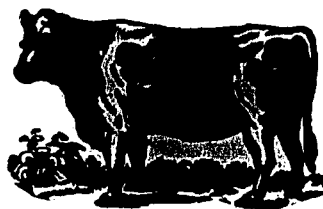
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